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1. (Amended) A method of using a computer to monitor financial transactions, the method comprising:

periodically receiving a target account identifier of a suspect account;

receiving financial transaction information, the financial transaction information including transaction records for a plurality of financial transactions that each have at least one associated account identifier;

comparing the target account identifier with the transaction information to determine if the target account identifier matches any of the account identifiers of the transaction information;

upon the occurrence of a match, generating an alert having at least a portion of the transaction record that has an account identifier matching the target account identifier; and

transmitting the alert to a recipient.

2. (Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the recipient comprises a provider of the target account identifier.

3. (Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the recipient comprises an owner of the suspect account.

4. (Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the recipient comprises a designee of a provider of the target account.

5. (Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the recipient comprises a compiler of marketing information relating to the account.

9. (Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the comparing and transmitting steps are performed within 15 minutes from the time that a transaction record having an account identifier matching the target account identifier is received.

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10.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1, wherein the comparing and transmitting steps are performed within 5 minutes from the time that a transaction record having an account identifier matching the target account identifier is received.

11.   (Amended)   The method as in claim 1, wherein the comparing and transmitting steps are performed within 1 minute from the time that a transaction record having an account identifier matching the target account identifier is received.

22.   (Amended)   The method of claim 13, wherein the notification is transmitted within 15 minutes from the time that the alert is received.

23.   (Amended)   The method of claim 13, wherein the notification is transmitted within 5 minutes from the time that the alert is received.

24.   (Amended)   The method of claim 13, wherein the notification is transmitted within 1 minute from the time that the alert is received.

40.   (Amended)   The system of claim 31, wherein the notification is transmitted from the processing server within 15 minutes from the time the processing server receives the alert.

41.   (Amended)   The system of claim 31, wherein the notification is transmitted from the processing server within 5 minutes from the time the processing server receives the alert.

42.   (Amended)   The system of claim 31, wherein the notification is transmitted from the processing server within 1 minute from the time the processing server receives the alert.